

I have been very, very concerned regarding the effects of media consolidation. Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line. In the case of Sinclair, they are clearly advancing their own right wing agenda. For example, recently, Sinclair prohibited its affiliates to run one episode of Nightline in which Ted Koppel simply read the names of our soldiers who were killed in Iraq. How dare they determine what the american people have a right to see. Who are they to filter out the news to their own satisfaction.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. Sinclair has only strengthen our case against media consolidation. Thank you.